



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Attorney Docket No.: 032436.01

Date: April 26, 2001



Customer Number: 25944

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

CONTINUING APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL  
RULE 1.53(b)

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is a

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-Part

application of prior pending Application No. 08/972,679, filed November 18, 1997,

For (Title): INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

By (Inventors): Satoshi EJIMA and Akihiko HAMAMURA

1. ☒ A Declaration and Power of Attorney is attached. The attached Declaration and Power of Attorney is:
- ☒ a. A copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney from the parent application. (Used with the same or fewer inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application or (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter.)
- ☐ b. A new Declaration and Power of Attorney. (Used with the same, fewer or additional inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application, (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter, or (c) a new specification.)
2. ☒ The filing fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION AFTER ENTRY OF  
ANY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT NOTED BELOW

FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA
BASIC FEE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	43 - 20	= 23
INDEP CLAIMS	8 - 3	= 5
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED		

\* If the difference is less than zero, enter "0".

SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	FEE
	\$ 355
x 9 =	\$
x 40 =	\$
+135 =	\$
TOTAL	\$

OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	FEE
	\$ 710
x 18	\$ 414
x 80	\$ 400
+270	\$
TOTAL	\$ 1524

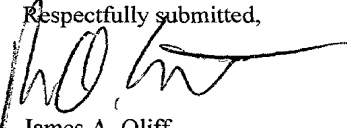
3. ☒ Check No. 118485 in the amount of \$1524 to cover the filing fee is attached. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any other fees that may be required to complete this filing, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 15-0461. Two duplicate copies of this sheet are attached.
4. ☐ Cancel claims \_\_\_\_ of the application before calculating the filing fee. At least one independent claim is retained for filing purposes.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
AUTHORIZATION  
Please grant any extension  
necessary for entry;  
Charge any fee due to our  
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

5. ☒ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:  
--This is a ☒ Continuation of Application No. 08/972,679 filed November 18, 1997. The entire disclosure of the prior application(s) is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.--
6. ☒ Formal drawings (Figs. 1-32) are attached.  
☐ Use Figure \_\_\_\_\_ for front page of Publication.
7. ☒ Priority of foreign applications No. 9-026513 and 9-163898 filed February 10, 1997 and June 20, 1997 in JAPAN is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and/or §365(b).  
☒ The certified copy was filed in prior Application No. 08/972,679 on January 28, 1998.  
☐ A certified copy of the above foreign application(s) is filed herewith.
8. ☒ Priority of U.S. Provisional Application(s) No. 60/052,923 filed July 11, 1997 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.  
☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:  
--This nonprovisional application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application(s) No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_--
9. ☒ The prior application is assigned of record to NIKON CORPORATION recorded at Reel 8834, Frames 380-381.
10. ☐ This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application (37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)(1)). Delete the following inventor(s) named in the prior application:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. ☐ A Preliminary Amendment is attached. Claims added by this Amendment are properly numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claim in the application.
12. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement is attached.
13. ☐ Small entity status:  
☐ a. Entitlement to small entity status is asserted.  
☐ b. Small entity status is no longer claimed.
14. ☒ Other: Petition for Extension of Time for Parent
15. ☐ This application is NOT to be published under 35 U.S.C. 112(b). The undersigned attorney or agent hereby certifies that the invention disclosed in this application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.
16. ☒ The power of attorney in the application is to James A. Oliff, Registration No. 27,075, William P. Berridge, Registration No. 30,024, Kirk M. Hudson, Registration No. 27,562, Thomas J. Pardini, Registration No. 30,411, Edward P. Walker, Registration No. 31,450, Robert A. Miller, Registration No. 32,771, Mario A. Costantino, Registration No. 33,565, Stephen J. Roe, Registration No. 34,463, Joel S. Armstrong, Registration No. 36,430, Christopher W. Brown, Registration No. 38,025, and/or Richard E. Rice, Registration No. 31,560.  
☒ a. The power appears in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney.  
☐ b. Since the power does not appear in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney, a substitute Power of Attorney is also attached.
17. ☒ Address all future communications to:

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Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
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Mario A. Costantino  
Registration No. 33,565

JAO:MAC/jam